United Nations S/2002/305

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 March 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 25 March 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Zambia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, in its capacity as Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, I have the honour to forward herewith the text of a communiqué issued on 20 March 2002 at an extraordinary meeting of the Political Committee, held in Lusaka (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present document and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Brig. Gen. John N. **Musonda**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

02-30272 (E) 250302

Annex to the letter dated 25 March 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Zambia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Final communiqué issued by the Political Committee on the implementation of the Ceasefire Agreement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Under the chairmanship of His Excellency João Bernardo de Miranda, Chairman of the Political Committee and Minister of External Relations of the Republic of Angola, an extraordinary meeting of the Political Committee was held in Lusaka, Zambia, on 20 March 2002.

The meeting was attended by Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda, Zimbabwe, the Mouvement pour la liberation du Congo (MLC), the Rassemblement congolais pour la democratie (RCD), and RCD-Kisangani-Mouvement de liberation (RCD-K-ML). The meeting was also attended by Zambia, representatives of the facilitator, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and the Joint Military Commission (JMC).

The Political Committee was briefed on the decision by the Congolese Government to withdraw from the inter-Congolese dialogue as a result of the escalation of hostilities in Moliro and expressed serious concern over the systematic violations of the Ceasefire Agreement. The Committee urged the parties to put an end to those violations.

The Political Committee welcomed the adoption by the United Nations Security Council of resolution 1399 (2002) of 19 March, and urged all the parties to strictly abide by the above resolution, thereby withdrawing from the positions they occupy in violation of the modalities of implementation of the disengagement plan. The Government should withdraw from Kayaya and Yayama within five days and the Rassemblement congolais pour la democratie should withdraw from Moliro and Pweto, also within five days.

The Political Committee urged the parties to fully implement the disengagement plan and to accelerate the demilitarization of Kisangani by, at the latest, 6 April 2002.

The Political Committee asked MONUC to submit within the next 15 days to the Chairman of the Political Committee a comprehensive report on the implementation of these decisions.

The Political Committee welcomed the decision by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to return to the inter-Congolese dialogue from 21 March 2002, and appealed to the Congolese parties that, despite their differences, they should place the national interests of the Congolese people above their own and work towards the speeding up and conclusion of the dialogue.

The Political Committee expressed its gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Zambia for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to the members of the Committee during their stay in Lusaka, as well as the excellent facilities put at their disposal.

Done in Lusaka, this 20th day of March 2002.